CHILD WORKERS *in* OKLAHOMA

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NATIONAL CHILD LABOR COMMITTEE

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1929

CHILD WORKERS *in* OKLAHOMA

A Study of Children Employed *in* Enid, Oklahoma City, and Lawton

By CHARLES E. GIBBONS
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Assisted by
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NATIONAL CHILD LABOR COMMITTEE
1929

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FOREWORD

Oklahoma is the fifth state in which the National Child Labor Committee has recently conducted a study of child labor conditions and the enforcement of the child labor law. Missouri, Indiana, Mississippi, and Connecticut, representative of widely different sections of the country, have all had similar investigations to check up on the extent of child labor in their communities and to demonstrate the adequacy of their present child labor and school attendance laws.

In the three Oklahoma cities studied, some children were found out of school and at work in violation of the school attendance law; a larger number, though legally permitted to work, were employed in violation of the restrictions as to hours, night work, etc., placed upon juvenile workers.

But the largest child labor problem in Oklahoma, paradoxical as it may seem, is the labor of school children—children who are regular attendants at school but who work before and after school hours. According to the law of Oklahoma, 14 years is the earliest age at which a child may work in factories, but there are many other types of employment, equally harmful, where they may work at any age, and these are practically unregulated by law. The work of children—even as young as 8 and 10 years—before and after school hours, often at night, often for several hours a day, is a phase of child employment to which little attention has been paid. Not only the facts discovered in Oklahoma, but in all the states studied, bespeak the need for more stringent regulation to protect such children.

The Committee wishes to express its appreciation to Mr. W. A. Pat Murphy, Commissioner of Labor, and to the school officials of the cities visited, for their cordial cooperation which made possible this report.

A similar study is now being conducted in Tulsa at the request of Mr. P. P. Claxton, Superintendent of Schools.

WILEY H. SWIFT

March 10, 1929

CHILD WORKERS *in* OKLAHOMA

The purpose of this report is to make known the extent of child labor in Oklahoma City, Enid, and Lawton, of the State of Oklahoma, and to show how effectively the present legislation on the subject is meeting the situation.

The plan of the study was similar to that followed in Indiana, Missouri, Connecticut, and Mississippi. The school enrollment of children 14 to 17 years, inclusive, was checked against the school census. The homes of those not in school were visited, and the causes of absence ascertained. For working children who were not in school, a schedule of information concerning their work was filled out; in most instances the parents gave the facts. Those who were in school and working were interviewed at the school.

The field work was carried on with the cooperation of the State Commissioner of Labor, and the school officials in the places visited. In Oklahoma City, the Commissioner of Labor assigned four members of his staff, and the Superintendent of Schools, three members, to assist.

SCHOOL CENSUS DISTRIBUTION

Chart I shows in detail the distribution of the children 14 to 17 years of age, inclusive, whose names were found on the school census lists of Oklahoma City, Enid, and Lawton. Names clearly established to be duplicates are not included.

Children in School

More than three-fourths (77.9 per cent) of all the enumerated children between 14 and 17 years of age, inclusive, were in school. This includes those who were attending public schools, or colleges, and those in private and church schools either in the place where enumerated or elsewhere.

Children Not Located

About one in fourteen (7.3 per cent) of the children could not be located. In some cases the address was incomplete; in others, incorrect. In some instances the family had moved and its whereabouts was unknown. This was especially true of the rooming-house and cheaper lodging sections of Oklahoma City.

CHART I

		Oklahoma City		Enid		Lawton		Total	
		Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Number children on census	White	6,732	....	1,833	....	828	....	9,393	....
	Negro	668	....	39	....	48	....	755	....
	Total	7,400	....	1,872	....	876	....	10,148	....
In School	White	5,362	79.6	1,376	75.0	651	78.5	7,389	78.7
	Negro	455	68.1	28	71.8	37	77.1	520	68.9
	Total	5,817	78.6	1,404	75.0	688	78.5	7,909	77.9
Not Located	White	521	7.7	152	8.3	14	1.7	687	7.3
	Negro	52	7.8	2	5.1	3	6.3	57	7.5
	Total	573	7.7	154	8.2	17	1.9	744	7.3
Moved, married, physical or mental incapacity, over and under age, etc.	White	484	7.2	187	10.2	93	11.2	764	8.1
	Negro	112	16.8	4	10.3	7	14.6	123	16.3
	Total	596	8.2	191	10.3	100	11.4	887	8.7
Idle	White	147	2.2	48	2.6	19	2.3	214	2.3
	Negro	37	5.5	1	2.6	1	2.1	39	5.2
	Total	184	2.5	49	2.6	20	2.3	253	2.5
Working full time	White	218	3.2	70	3.8	51	6.2	339	3.6
	Negro	12	1.8	4	10.3	...	....	16	2.1
	Total	230	3.1	74	4.0	51	5.8	355	3.5
Children between 14 and 17 years working and going to school	White	623	....	196	....	105	....	924	....
	Negro	102	....	6	....	5	....	113	....
	Total	725	....	202	....	110	....	1,037	....

Children Moved, Married, etc.

In addition to those who could not be located, 8.7 per cent of the children enumerated in the census were excluded from the study, although not attending school, for various reasons: they had moved to other places, were physically or mentally incapacitated, had died, were over or under the age given, were in correctional institutions, or the army or navy, or had married. Over half (54.8 per cent) of the children in this group had moved from the city. The percentage of those who had moved was about a third higher in Enid than in Oklahoma City or Lawton.

Marriage was second in importance in this group of non-attendants, amounting to one-fifth (20.6 per cent) of the group, or 1.8 per cent of the 14 to 17 year old children enumerated. The

marriage rate was much higher among Negro than among white children, being 4.9 per cent for the former, and 1.5 per cent for the latter. In Oklahoma City the rate was 1.9 per cent; in Enid, .8 per cent, and in Lawton, 3.3 per cent.

Mental and physical incapacity accounted for the absence of about one-eighth (12.3 per cent) of this group, or 1.1 per cent of all the 14 to 17 year old children enumerated.

Children Idle

Two and one-half per cent of the children between 14 and 17 years enumerated in the school census were idle, the term being applied to those children who were definitely out of school but not engaged in regular employment. There was practically no difference in the rate for the different places, but for the Negro children it was more than twice as high as for the white.

Children Working Full Time

This term is applied to children 14 to 17 years who were out of school and gainfully employed. Three hundred and fifty-five children had quit school and gone to work. Eight of these had been graduated from high school and may go to college later, and it may be that some of the others will re-enter school. Relatively, about two-thirds as many Negro as white children were employed full time. Oklahoma City had comparatively fewer children regularly employed than Enid, which, in turn, had relatively fewer than Lawton. The percentages of those enumerated who were working were as follows: Oklahoma City, 3.1; Enid, 4.0; and Lawton, 5.8.

Children Working and Going to School

Those who were attending school and, in addition, were engaged in some regular employment outside of school hours, for which they received pay, are referred to as "part-time working children."

Under the classification of part-time work, all children engaged in gainful employment, regardless of age, were included. The work of these children is discussed in a special section of this report.

Considering for the moment only those between 14 and 17 years (the age-group for whom information about full-time work were secured), there were over a thousand children working part time. The full-time workers and the part-time workers, taken together, represent the total number of 14 to 17 year old children

who are to be considered in any discussion of child labor. If there are eliminated from the school census count, the two groups, "Children Moved, Married, etc.," and "Children Not Located," there will be left three groups: "Children in School," "Children Idle," and "Children Working Full Time," or a total of 8,517 children. Of these, 355 were working full time and 1,037 part time. This means that approximately one in six (16.3 per cent) of the children between 14 and 17 years of age in the three places were engaged in some kind of gainful employment. Of the white children 15.9 per cent and of the Negro children, 22.4 per cent, were so employed. The percentages of children working in the different places were as follows: Oklahoma City, 15.3; Lawton, 21.2; and Enid, 21.6.

AGES OF WORKING CHILDREN

Chart II shows the age distribution of working children.

CHART II

	13 Yrs. and under	14 Years	15 Years	16 Years	17 Years	18 Yrs. and over	Total
Full-time		15	56	112	172		355
Part-time	1,019	276	267	293	201	257	2,313
Total	1,019	291	323	405	373	257	2,668

Full-Time Workers

As stated above, the school census was used as the source for finding the children out of school and working full time. Since this count started with 14 and ended with 17 years, no full-time working children under 14 or over 17 years were considered. Almost one-half (48.4 per cent) of the full-time working children were 17 years old; nearly one-third (31.5 per cent), 16 years; 15.8 per cent, 15 years; and 4.2 per cent, 14 years old. The relative distribution of the full-time workers by ages was practically the same in Oklahoma City and Enid, but the ages ran somewhat lower in Lawton. The average age was 16.3 years in Oklahoma City and Enid, and 15.9 years in Lawton.

Part-Time Workers

More than two-fifths (44.0 per cent) of the part-time working children were 13 years of age or under. Twenty-one children

were 7 years (the earliest age included), and the number gradually increased as the age increased. The 14 to 17 year group represented a slightly higher percentage (44.8), while 11.1 per cent were 18 years or older.

The part-time working children in Oklahoma City (average age 13.8 years) were younger than those in Enid (average age 14.0 years) and those in Enid were younger than those in Lawton (average age 14.5 years). The average age for all the places was 13.9 years. Oklahoma City had 45.8 per cent, who were 13 years of age or less, compared to 41.1 per cent in Enid and 37.5 per cent in Lawton. Relatively there was very little difference in the percentages in the 14 to 17 year group: 44.5 in Oklahoma City, 45.6 in Enid, and 45.8 in Lawton. But for the children 18 years of age or older, the percentage for Oklahoma City was 9.7; for Enid, 13.3; and for Lawton, 16.7.

The school census figures showed the proportion of children leaving school for work to be highest in Lawton and lowest in Oklahoma City, and as just stated, the full-time working children were somewhat younger in Lawton than in either of the other places. On the other hand the tendency is for relatively more young children to be working, in addition to attending school, in the larger places.

SEX AND COLOR OF WORKING CHILDREN

Nearly one-third (31.3 per cent) of the full-time workers were girls, and 68.7 per cent were boys. Relatively there were about as many girls working in Oklahoma City as in Lawton, the percentages being 28.3 and 29.4 respectively, but in Enid the percentage was 41.9. Among the children working and also going to school, the percentage was much smaller: about one-ninth (11.5 per cent) of the part-time workers were girls, and 88.5 per cent were boys. The percentage of girls in Oklahoma City was 10.8; in Enid, 12.6; and in Lawton, 13.7.

There were only 18 full-time working Negro children; this was 5.0 per cent of the total. There were none in Lawton, 4 in Enid, and 14 in Oklahoma City. The percentage of Negro part-time workers was but little higher than that for full-time workers, being 8.8. There were 186 Negro children doing part-time work in Oklahoma City, 10 in Enid, and 7 in Lawton.

JOB ANALYSIS

Chart III shows the kinds of work at which the children were employed.

CHART III

	Oklahoma City		Enid		Lawton		Total		Grand Total
	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	
Newspaper work	4	556	...	181	...	75	4	812	816
Selling Goods	30	264	11	102	5	64	46	430	476
Delivery Service	44	183	5	27	1	20	50	230	280
Caddying	...	126	...	3	...	1	...	130	130
Domestic Service	14	95	4	11	6	6	24	112	136
Yard and Garden Work	...	57	...	5	...	5	...	67	67
Porter and Janitor Work	...	48	3	7	...	14	3	69	72
Office Work	25	64	3	17	...	2	28	83	111
Automobile Work	14	30	1	18	5	10	20	58	78
Restaurant Work	7	26	5	8	1	5	13	39	52
Theatre Ushers	...	14	...	8	...	...	...	22	22
Farm and Dairy Work	13	16	2	5	7	3	22	24	46
Collectors and Solicitors	2	8	...	4	...	1	2	13	15
Telephone Operators	6	6	6	...	1	1	13	7	20
Laundry Work	9	....	6	...	5	...	20	.....	20
Hospital Work	3	....	...	...	...	...	3	.....	3
Factory	16	....	6	...	10	...	32	.....	32
Skilled or Semi-skilled Trades	24	85	9	32	1	16	34	133	167
Miscellaneous Unskilled	19	52	13	15	9	17	41	84	125
Total	230	1,630	74	443	51	240	355	2,313	2,668

Newspaper Work

This work consists of selling or delivering newspapers and magazines. It was almost wholly engaged in by part-time workers and was numerically their most important occupation. Of the part-time working children 35.1 per cent sold or delivered newspapers or magazines. Nearly half (47.4 per cent) of these workers had regular newspaper delivery routes; almost one-third (32.6 per cent) were selling newspapers on the streets; and less than one-fifth (19.8 per cent) were selling and delivering magazines.

Of all the working children, 30.6 per cent were engaged in some phase of newspaper distribution. The percentage in Enid was

35.0; in Oklahoma City, 30.1; and in Lawton, 25.8. Of the children so employed, route work engaged the attention of nearly half (48.9 per cent) in Oklahoma City, slightly more than half in Lawton (50.7 per cent), and about two-fifths (42.0 per cent) in Enid. Free-lance selling on the streets—the most detrimental phase of newspaper work—was engaged in by 44.4 per cent of the newspaper working children in Enid; by 30.7 per cent, in Lawton; and by 29.1 per cent, in Oklahoma City.

Selling Goods

This work consists chiefly of selling goods in various kinds of stores, the more important being drug, grocery, and clothing stores. Nearly one-third (31.3 per cent) of the 476 children engaged in selling goods worked in grocery stores; nearly one-fourth (23.1 per cent) in drug stores; and about the same percentage (23.7 per cent) in clothing stores with which are grouped five-and-ten-cent stores. There were 21 children engaged in selling miscellaneous items of merchandise on the streets. The remainder were working in some dozen or more different kinds of stores.

Numerically, selling of goods was second in importance to newspaper work, the number of children so employed comprising 17.8 per cent of all the working children. Relatively, this kind of work was of greater importance for the part-time than the full-time workers, there being 18.6 per cent of the former thus employed, as compared to 13.0 per cent of the latter.

Few of the children were engaged in selling goods in Oklahoma City as compared with those in Enid or Lawton. The percentage for Oklahoma City was 15.8; for Enid, 19.9; and for Lawton, 20.3. In Oklahoma City one-third of the part-time sellers worked in drug stores, compared to 14.7 per cent in Enid, and 7.8 per cent in Lawton.

Delivery Service

There is included in this, parcel delivery service for various kinds of merchandising places, office boy (or girl) work, and telegraphic messenger service. Of the 280 children doing this type of work 72 (25.7 per cent) delivered for drug stores, and 45 (16.1 per cent) for grocery stores. Twenty-five were office boys, and 24, telegraph messengers. The remainder delivered shoes, clothing, milk, laundry, circulars, etc.

The children engaged in such work represent 10.5 per cent of all the working children, ranking third in importance from the

standpoint of numbers. This type of employment occupied the full-time rather than part-time workers, the percentages thus employed being 14.1 and 9.9 respectively. It was nearly twice as important in Oklahoma City (12.2 per cent) as in either Lawton (7.2 per cent), or Enid (6.2 per cent).

Caddying

All children doing this kind of work were part-time workers. The 130 caddies represent nearly five per cent of all the workers, and all were in Oklahoma City except three in Enid and one in Lawton.

Domestic Service

This includes house cleaning, washing dishes, waiting table, maid service, and cooking, in private homes. It gave employment to 136 children, or 5.1 per cent of all the working children. There were 4.8 per cent of the part-time workers employed in domestic service, as compared to 6.8 per cent of full-time workers. In Oklahoma City, 5.9 per cent; in Lawton, 4.1 per cent; and in Enid, 2.9 per cent of all working children were engaged in domestic service.

Yard and Garden Work

This term is applied to the work done by children in mowing lawns, cleaning up yards, caring for the garden, etc. No full-time workers were engaged at this. The total number (67), amounted to 2.5 per cent of all the working children.

Porter and Janitor Work

This consists of cleaning up and scrubbing in public buildings, offices, stores, barber-shops, etc. All of the 72 children (2.7 per cent of the total) were part-time workers except 3.

Office Work

Included in this classification are stenographers, typists, bookkeepers, clerks, cashiers, stock keepers, receiving and shipping clerks, etc. There were 111 children engaged in this type of work, or 4.2 per cent of all the working children. Relatively twice as many full-time as part-time workers were thus employed, the percentages being 7.9 and 3.6 respectively. Oklahoma City had 4.8 per cent; Enid, 3.9 per cent and Lawton, .7 per cent of their working children in office work.

Automobile Work

Of the 78 children doing this kind of work, 33 were filling station attendants, 27 garage and battery workers, and 18 truck-drivers and chauffeurs. Automobile work engaged the attention of slightly less than 3 per cent of all the workers—5.6 per cent of the full-time and 2.5 per cent of the part-time workers. In Oklahoma City, 2.5 per cent; in Enid, 3.6 per cent; and in Lawton, 5.1 per cent of the working children were thus employed.

Restaurant Work

Slightly less than 2 per cent of all the working children were waiters and dishwashers in restaurants. It was of relatively more importance to full-time than to part-time workers, the respective percentages being 3.7 and 1.7.

Theatre Ushers

Twenty-two children were acting as ushers in theatres; all were part-time workers, 14 being in Oklahoma City and 8, in Enid.

Farm and Dairy Work

Forty-six children (1.7 per cent of the total) were working on farms or in dairies; 22 were part-time and 24, full-time workers. Comparatively more children in Lawton were doing this kind of work than in either of the other places. The percentages were as follows: Lawton, 3.4; Oklahoma City, 1.6; and Enid, 1.3.

Collectors and Solicitors

Only fifteen children were engaged in this type of work; 13 were part-time and 2 full-time workers.

Telephone Operators

Twenty children were working in this capacity, 13 being full-time and 7 part-time workers.

Laundry Work

Twenty children were working in laundries. All were full-time workers.

Hospital Work

Three full-time working children in Oklahoma City were doing some kind of work in hospitals.

Factory Work

There were 32 full-time working children engaged in factory work, including packing houses. This was 1.2 per cent of all the working children, or 9.0 per cent of the full-time workers. No part-time children did this kind of work. Of the full-time workers in Oklahoma City, 7.0 per cent; in Enid, 8.1 per cent; and in Lawton, 19.6 per cent, were employed in this type of work.

Skilled and Semi-Skilled Trades

Under this heading are grouped those who were workers or helpers in the mechanical trades, such as painters, carpenters, brick-masons, electricians, machinists, etc., and such other skilled jobs as butchers, bakers, barbers, printers, pressers, etc. A few of these occupations such as musicians, instructors, etc., might be considered as professions rather than trades.

There were 167 children employed at skilled or semi-skilled trades. This was 6.3 per cent of all the working children (9.6 per cent of the full-time and 5.7 per cent of the part-time workers). Of all the working children, in Oklahoma City, 5.9 per cent; in Enid, 7.9 per cent; and in Lawton, 5.5 per cent, were so employed.

Miscellaneous Unskilled Work

Under this heading are grouped shine, pin, and elevator boys, and a remainder that for the most part could be classed as ordinary unskilled common laborers. Of the 125 children working at these jobs, 33 were shine boys, 11 pin boys and 5 elevator boys. The number of children engaged at these jobs were 4.7 per cent of all the working children. The 41 full-time workers constituted 11.5 per cent of that group, and the 84 part-time workers, 3.6 per cent of their total number. Of all the working children in Lawton, 8.2 per cent; in Enid, 5.4 per cent; and in Oklahoma City, 3.8 per cent, were employed in these types of jobs.

Summary of Job Analysis

In summing up the job analysis it will be seen that 84.0 per cent of the working children were employed in the following eight types of work named in the order of their importance: delivering or selling newspapers and magazines, selling goods, delivery service, skilled or semi-skilled trades, domestic service, caddying, unskilled jobs, and office work. These eight kinds of work occupied 87.0 per cent of the part-time as compared to 64.0 per cent of the full-time workers. More than one-fourth (26.5 per cent) of the

full-time as compared to 3.5 per cent of the part-time workers were employed at factory, farm, automobile, and laundry work.

Taking the eight classes of work referred to above, the facts show that of all the workers, in Oklahoma City, 85.2 per cent; in Enid, 83.7 per cent; and in Lawton, 76.6 per cent, were thus employed. Of all the working children, in Oklahoma City, 5.3 per cent; in Enid, 7.4 per cent; and in Lawton, 10.3 per cent, were employed in factory, farm, automobile and laundry.

In regard to the eight types of employment in which the large majority of children are employed, two facts stand out. One is that there seems to be considerably greater opportunity for children attending school to work at these jobs than for children who have quit school and gone to work. In this the size of the town seems to have but little influence, for of all the part-time workers, in Oklahoma City, 87.4 per cent; in Enid, 87.5 per cent; and in Lawton, 83.8 per cent, were employed in the eight aforementioned kinds of work. The second is that, while there is less opportunity for children to work full time in these eight types of work, the size of the town seems to have a greater influence than was the case with the part-time workers. Of all the full-time working children in Oklahoma City, 69.6 per cent; in Enid, 60.8 per cent; and in Lawton, 43.1 per cent, were employed in such occupations.

Part-Time Work in Relation to Age

The average age of the children engaged in newspaper work was 12.0 years and of the yard and garden workers, 12.8 years. These two kinds of jobs gave employment to 38.0 per cent of all the part-time working children. In all the places, 71.7 per cent of the children working at these jobs were 13 years or less, the percentage for Oklahoma City being 70.5; for Enid, 77.9; and for Lawton, 65.3. A further analysis of the newspaper jobs shows that the average age of the children in Oklahoma City was 12.1 years; in Enid, 11.6 years; and in Lawton 12.3 years. Almost half of the route boys (49.5 per cent) were 13 years or less, and the average age was 13.4 years. Nearly nine-tenths (89.1 per cent) of the children selling newspapers on the streets were 13 years or less, and the average age was 10.9 years. Nearly all (95.7 per cent) of the magazine sellers were 13 years of age or less, and the average was 10.6 years. Caddies averaged 13.1 years, and they comprised 5.6 per cent of the part-time working children.

It will be noted that the three kinds of work—newspaper, yard and garden, and caddying—are almost exclusively part-time jobs;

they furnish employment to more than two-fifths (43.6 per cent) of the part-time workers, and the average age is less than 14 years.

The average age of delivery boys was 14.0 years; farm and dairy workers, 14.1 years; collectors and solicitors, 14.5 years; porters and janitors, 14.6 years; and miscellaneous unskilled workers, 14.8 years—all averages being between 14 and 15 years. These jobs gave employment to nearly one-fifth (18.2 per cent) of the children, the percentage for Oklahoma City being 18.8; for Enid, 13.1; and for Lawton, 22.9.

The average age of the part-time children selling goods was 15.3 years; of those in domestic service, 15.3 years; for restaurant workers, 15.5 years; and for automobile workers, 15.8 years—all averages being between 15 and 16 years. A little over one-fourth (27.6 per cent) of the children were working at these four kinds of jobs, the percentage for Oklahoma City being 25.5; for Enid, 31.4; and for Lawton, 35.4.

Jobs in which the average age was between 16 and 17 years were: office workers, 16.5; skilled trades workers, 16.8; and ushers, 16.9 years. These gave employment to 10.3 per cent of the children. In Oklahoma City the percentage was 10.0; in Enid, 12.9; and in Lawton, 7.5. Only for telephone operators was the average age over 17 years (17.4).

Full-Time Work in Relation to Age

Of all the full-time workers there was only one group whose average age was below 16 years. These children were doing porter and janitor work, and the average age was 15.7 years.

The children working in factories, at miscellaneous unskilled work, in hospitals, at collecting and soliciting, and at domestic service, averaged 16.0 years. Slightly more than one-fourth (28.6 per cent) of the full-time children were working at these jobs.

The children having an average age of more than 16 years but less than 16½, were working at the following jobs: delivery service, automobile work, office work, in restaurants, in farm work, in laundry work, and paper delivering. More than two-fifths (44.2 per cent) were working at these jobs.

The children selling goods, working at skilled trades, and as telephone operators, averaged 16½ or more years, and these children comprised 26.2 per cent of all the full-time workers.

DAILY HOURS[1]

Less than half (44.4 per cent) of the full-time working children were employed for 8 hours or less per day. The average length of the work day was 8.7 hours, with 55.6 per cent of the children working more than 8 hours a day. Practically one-third (32.7 per cent) worked 8½ or 9 hours daily; 14.8 per cent, 9½ or 10 hours; 4.7 per cent, 10½ or 11 hours; and 3.4 per cent, 11½ or more hours per day. The average length of the work day was shortest in Oklahoma City, being 8.6 hours, compared to 8.8 hours in Enid, and 9.0 hours in Lawton. In Oklahoma City, 51.9 per cent; in Enid, 62.2 per cent; and in Lawton, 60.0 per cent, worked more than 8 hours per day.

Since Saturday was practically the only day on which the part-time workers could put in a full day's work, consideration will be given here only to the hours worked on Saturday, by this group of children. Nine-tenths (90.3 per cent) of the part-time working children worked on Saturday. There was only a slight difference in this percentage for the different places. Slightly more than one-third (35.2 per cent) of these children working on Saturday were employed for more than 8 hours per day, the average being 6.4 hours. About one in nine (11.5 per cent) worked 8½ or 9 hours; 9.2 per cent, 9½ or 10 hours; 3.5 per cent, 10½ or 11 hours; and 11.1 per cent, 11½ or more hours. The average for Saturday work in Oklahoma City and Enid was 6.3 hours, but 32.7 per cent of the children in Oklahoma City as compared to 37.0 per cent in Enid worked more than 8 hours. In Lawton the day averaged 7.5 hours, with nearly half (49.5 per cent) the children employed for more than 8 hours.

Kinds of Work in Relation to Daily Hours

For the full-time working children, those engaged in automobile work averaged 9.7 hours per day; in restaurants, 9.5; as porters and janitors, 9.3; in selling goods, 9.2; and in farm and dairy work, 9.0 hours per day. In these jobs were employed 29.3 per cent of the full-time workers, and nearly three-fourths (73.6 per cent) worked more than 8 hours a day. Full-time delivery boys averaged 8.9 hours; laundry workers, 8.7; miscellaneous unskilled, 8.6; hospital, 8.5; and factory 8.5 hours per day. Slightly more than two-fifths (41.1 per cent) were employed in these jobs, and about half (56.9 per cent) worked more than 8 hours per day.

[1] There were 47 full-time working children in Oklahoma City, and 11 in Lawton for whom neither the length of the work day nor the length of the work week, were secured. Percentages and averages are based upon answers received.

The full-time jobs which averaged between 8 and 8.4 hours were: domestic service, office, skilled trades, and telephone operators. About one-fourth (27.9 per cent) of the children worked in these jobs, and nearly two-fifths (39.0 per cent) worked more than 8 hours per day. The four paper boys alone averaged less than 8 hours.

Generally, the jobs that had a high daily average for the full-time children, also had a high Saturday average for the part-time workers. The part-time children engaged in automobile work averaged 9.4 hours, and those selling goods, 9.0 hours. Nearly one-fourth (22.6 per cent) of the 2,088 part-time children working on Saturday, were employed in these two jobs, and nearly two out of three (65.6 per cent) worked more than 8 hours per day. Miscellaneous unskilled workers averaged 8.9 hours; farm and dairy, 8.5; and collectors and solicitors, 8.2 hours, all averages being over 8 hours per day. These workers comprised 5.2 per cent of the Saturday part-time working children, but more than three out of five (61.8 per cent) worked more than 8 hours. In the remainder of the part-time jobs, the average was under 8 hours per day, but nearly one-fourth (23.8 per cent) of the Saturday workers were employed for more than 8 hours.

Age in Relation to Daily Hours

Of the 15 full-time workers who were fourteen years old, 7 worked more than eight hours; 5, eight hours or less; and for 3, answers were not received. The average length of the day was 8.9 hours. Of the 56 fifteen year old children, 23 worked more than eight hours a day; 20, eight hours or less; and for 13, answers were not received. The day averaged 8.7 hours for the fifteen year old children. Of the 112 sixteen year old children, 58 worked more than eight hours per day; 44, eight hours or less; and for the remainder information was not secured. The average length of the day was 8.7 hours. Of the 172 full-time working seventeen year old children, 77 worked more than eight hours a day; 63, eight hours or less; for the remainder information was not secured. The average length of the day for the 17 year old children was 8.6 hours.

For the part-time working children 13 years or under, Saturday work averaged 5.3 hours, with one-fourth of them working more than eight hours per day. For those between 14 and 17 years, inclusive, it averaged 6.9 hours, with 38.0 per cent working more than 8 hours, and for the group 18 years and over it averaged 8.4 hours with nearly three-fifths (59.9 per cent) working more than 8 hours.

WEEKLY HOURS

The average length of the week for full-time children was 52.4 hours. Slightly more than two-fifths (43.8 per cent) had a standard work week of 48 hours or less; a little over one-fourth (27.3 per cent) from 49 to 54 hours; 6.1 per cent, from 55 to 59 hours; and more than one-fifth (22.9 per cent) 60 or more hours. The average was lowest in Oklahoma City, being 51.0 hours, with half (50.3 per cent) of the children working more than 48 hours. In Enid, the average was 54.7 hours, with two-thirds (67.6 per cent) working more than 48 hours. In Lawton, it was 54.5 hours, with 62.5 per cent working more than 48 hours.

For the part-time children, the length of the week averaged 18.4 hours. Allowing 30 hours a week for school, this would give an average week of work and school combined of slightly more than 48 hours. Nearly three-fifths (57.8 per cent) of the part-time children worked 18 hours or less per week; 14.2 per cent, from 19 to 24 hours; 8.0 per cent, from 25 to 29 hours; and one-fifth, 30 hours or more per week. If 30 hours for school are added to each of the above figures, it will be seen that the situation from the standpoint of relative numbers is somewhat more favorable to the part-time than to the full-time working children, although the difference is not great.

Unlike the weekly hour situation with respect to full-time work, Oklahoma City had the longest week for part-time workers averaging 19.6 hours, compared to 16.7 hours in Lawton, and 15.2 hours in Enid. In Oklahoma City 46.3 per cent, in Lawton 36.3 per cent, and in Enid 30.2 per cent, worked more than 18 hours a week.

Kinds of Work in Relation to Weekly Hours

The longest average week for the full-time workers was 65.3 hours for the children working in restaurants; for porters and janitors, it was 61.3 hours, and for automobile workers, 61.1 hours. The jobs having an average of 60 or more hours per week gave employment to 10.1 per cent of the full-time children, three-fourths of whom worked more than 48 hours per week.

Full-time farm and dairy workers averaged 56.7 hours and the hospital workers, 59.5 hours; about seven per cent of the children were thus employed, with 83.3 per cent working more than 48 hours. The jobs with an average week of 49 to 54 hours were: delivery service, 54.3 hours; domestic service, 54.0; selling goods, 53.3; laundry, 52.6; factory, 50.8; miscellaneous unskilled, 50.7; telephone operators, 49.3; and skilled trades, 48.6 hours. Nearly

three-fourths (73.2 per cent) of the full-time children worked at these jobs, and a little over one-half (54.8 per cent) of them were working more than 48 hours per week. Only paper boys and office workers had an average week less than 48 hours, but three in ten of them worked more than the standard week of 48 hours.

In the case of part-time workers the longest average week was for telephone operators. There were only seven children so engaged, but six of them worked more than 18 hours a week. The jobs averaging between 25 and 29 hours were: ushers and automobile work, each, 28.5 hours and restaurant work, 27.2 hours. A little over five per cent of the children were employed in these jobs, but nearly three-fourths of them (72.3 per cent) were working more than 18 hours a week.

The part-time jobs averaging between 19 and 24 hours were: selling goods, 23.1; office, 23.0; delivery, 22.5; skilled trades, 22.3; miscellaneous unskilled, 20.8 hours per week. Slightly more than two-fifths (41.5 per cent) of the part-time children were working at these jobs; over one-half (56.8 per cent) were working more than 18 hours a week. The remainder of the part-time jobs averaged as follows: caddies, 18.4; collectors and solicitors, 17.7; farm and dairy, 16.9; domestic service, 16.8; newspaper, 13.2; porters and janitors, 12.9; and yard and garden, 11.7 hours per week. These jobs gave employment to half (53.0 per cent) of the part-time children, but more than one-fourth (27.5 per cent) worked more than 18 hours a week.

Age in Relation to Weekly Hours

Of the full-time children, 8 of the fourteen year old, 27 of the fifteen, 61 of the sixteen, and 71 of the seventeen year old children, worked more than 48 hours a week. Based upon answers received, the respective averages per age group were: 54.8, 53.5, 52.3, and 52.0 hours per week.

For the part-time children 13 years of age or less, the weekly time averaged 13.5 hours, with one-fourth (25.4 per cent) working more than 18 hours a week. For the age group, 14 to 17 years, inclusive, the average was 21.5 hours, with half (52.4 per cent) working more than 18 hours; and for the age group 18 years and over, it was 25.3 hours, with two-thirds (67.7 per cent) working more than 18 hours per week.

NIGHT WORK

The term night work is applied to work done between 6 p. m. and 7 a. m. From the standpoint of numbers, night work was relatively of less importance to full-time than to part-time work-

ing children. Nearly one-fifth (18.0 per cent) of the full-time workers, as compared to almost half (47.0 per cent) of the part-time, put in all or a part of their work at night. Of the 64 children working full time and employed at night, 5 had their entire work time at night, and of the 1,086 part-time children working at night, 129 worked only at night. It must be borne in mind that the "part-time" group includes children over 18 years whereas the "full-time" workers do not.

For the children who worked at night, the night time work averaged 12.3 hours per week for the part-time and 19.8 for the full-time children. But of the total time worked both day and night, nearly one-third (31.2 per cent) was at night in the case of the part-time children compared with 8.1 per cent for the full-time children.

Of the part-time children working at night, three-fourths (75.9 per cent) worked in the evening after 6 p.m.; 17.1 per cent, in the morning before 7 a.m.; and 6.9 per cent, both in the morning and evening.

The following chart shows the comparative night work data for Oklahoma City, Enid, and Lawton:

CHART IV

	Total number working children		Total number working at night		Percentage working at night		Average weekly hours night work		Night work percentage of total time worked	
	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time
Oklahoma City....	230	1,630	36	732	15.7	44.9	20.0	13.7	7.7	31.4
Enid.....	74	443	17	234	23.0	52.8	23.2	10.1	9.8	35.1
Lawton.....	51	240	11	120	21.6	50.0	13.8	7.9	7.0	23.5
Total.....	355	2,313	64	1,086	18.0	47.0	19.8	12.3	8.1	31.2

Kinds of Work in Relation to Night Work

Among the part-time children, all ushers and telephone operators, and nine out of ten of the hotel and restaurant workers were employed at night. About three-fourths of the total weekly time worked by ushers, and about three-fifths of the total weekly time of each of the other two types of jobs, were night hours.

Three-fourths (75.3 per cent) of the part-time children selling goods, nearly two-thirds (63.8 per cent) of those in automobile work, and two-fifths (39.9 per cent) of those engaged in selling or distributing newspapers and magazines, were employed a part or all of their time at night. These three types of employment ac-

counted for more than three-fifths (62.1 per cent) of all the part-time night-working children. Of the total weekly time worked during both day and night, nearly two-fifths (39.6 per cent) of that worked by children selling goods, one-third (35.4 per cent) of that by automobile workers, and 29.3 per cent of that by newspaper children were night hours. Nearly three-fifths (57.1 per cent) of the children grouped as unskilled workers, about one-half (50.9 per cent) of those employed in domestic service, and about half (49.1 per cent) of the delivery children put in time between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. One-third (32.0 per cent) of the total hours for unskilled workers, 37.4 per cent for the delivery workers, and 27.3 per cent for domestic workers, were night hours.

Approximately one-third of the part-time children employed as porters and janitors, office workers, farm and dairy workers, and at skilled trades, worked at night, but in no instance was more than one-fourth of the total weekly hours put in at night.

As previously pointed out, there were 5 full-time children whose work was entirely at night, and 59 whose time lapsed over into the night hours. This latter group were generally the ones who had the extremely long day and long week. The average length of the week (day and night) of the 64 night workers was 58.8 hours, compared to 50.6 for those who worked during the day only. Approximately two-thirds of the hotel and restaurant, the porter and janitor, and the telephone operator groups worked at night; in each case more than one-fourth of the total weekly hours, were night hours.

Thirteen of the 46 full-time children selling goods, 11 of the 50 in delivery service, 4 of the 24 in domestic service, and 4 of the 20 in automobile work, had their day lap over into the night.

Age in Relation to Night Work

More than one-third (35.3 per cent) of the part-time children under 14 worked at night, compared to one-half (54.8 per cent) of those 14 to 17 years of age, and three-fifths (61.5 per cent) of those 18 years or older.

For the night workers in the age group under 14, more than half (55.3 per cent) were engaged in newspaper work; 21.4 per cent, in selling goods; and 10.6 per cent, in delivery service. It is interesting to note that of the children of this age group working at night in newspaper work, about one-third (36.2 per cent) worked in the early morning; nearly three-fifths (58.7 per cent), in the evening; and 5.0 per cent, both morning and evening.

While, in the age group 14 to 17, the majority of the night workers were found in the three types of employment just men-

tioned, their relative positions are considerably different than in the case of the younger age group. Of the night workers in the 14 to 17 year age group, one-fifth (21.1 per cent) were in newspaper work; one-third (32.7 per cent), selling goods; and 12.0 per cent, in delivery service. Other types of jobs such as unskilled, skilled trades, automobile, and domestic service work, gave relatively more opportunity for night employment, for the children between 14 and 17 years, than was the case for those 13 years or less. Of the children selling newspapers between 6 p.m and 7 a.m., 70.0 per cent worked in the early morning; 22.5 per cent, in the evening; and 7.5 per cent, both morning and evening. In the age group 18 years and over, the majority of the night workers were engaged in selling goods, domestic service, and skilled trades.

From the standpoint of total weekly time worked, 28.1 per cent of the hours worked by children 13 years or less, were at night, compared to 33.9 per cent of those worked by children between 14 and 17 years, and 28.7 per cent of those worked by children 18 years or over.

Of the full-time night workers, three were 14 years old; nine, 15 years; twenty-one, 16 years; and thirty-one, 17 years old.

EMPLOYERS

Of all the full-time workers, 86.2 per cent worked for employers; 11.3 per cent, for their parents; and 2.5 per cent, for themselves. While the difference is not great, the tendency was for relatively more children to work for their parents in the smaller places. The employer situation with respect to the part-time children is considerably different from that of the full-time children. Of the part-time children, 71.4 per cent were working for employers; 8.0 per cent, for parents; and 20.5 per cent, for themselves. There is somewhat less tendency for part-time children to work for their parents than in the case of full-time children, but the size-of-the-place influence was relatively the same. The significant thing is the greater tendency for children who go to school to be in some kind of business for themselves, than for those who have quit school permanently.

Kinds of Work in Relation to Employers

Four of the 9 full-time children working for themselves were engaged as common laborers, and the remainder were employed as paper boy, in selling goods, as auto mechanic, waiter, and farm hand. Of the 428 part-time workers operating for themselves, 90.1 per cent were selling newspapers and magazines. Twenty-nine of the 40 full-time children working for their parents were em-

ployed in domestic service, farm and dairy, skilled trades and unskilled jobs; while nearly half (45.4 per cent) of the part-time children working for their parents were engaged in selling goods and delivery service. Almost one-third (31.4 per cent) of the part-time working children working for their parents were employed at yard and garden work, automobile work, skilled trades, and unskilled work.

Age in Relation to Employers

Among the full-time children there was a tendency for the percentage working for their parents to decrease as the age increased, and for those working for employers or for themselves to increase as the age increased. For the part-time children, the situation is reversed. Of the children 13 years and under, 6.2 per cent; of those 14 to 17 years, 8.7 per cent; and of those 18 years and over, 12.5 per cent, were working for their parents. More than two-fifths (41.2 per cent) of the children 13 years and under were working for themselves largely due to the fact that young children can get newspapers and magazines, and go on the street to sell them. Only 5 per cent of the age group 14 to 17 years were working for themselves, compared to practically none (.4 per cent) of those 18 years and over.

TIME ON JOB

The part-time children had been working at their present jobs an average of 11.6 months: 11.2 months in Oklahoma City, 12.9 months in Enid, and 11.9 months in Lawton. About one-fifth (21.3 per cent) had been working for one month or less; 27.4 per cent, from one month to six months; 24.5 per cent, from six months to one year; 12.1 per cent, between one and two years; and 14.7 per cent, more than two years.

For the full-time children the average length of employment on their jobs was 6.5 months; in Oklahoma City, 5.9 months; in Enid, 7.4 months; and in Lawton, 7.2 months. One-fifth (20.5 per cent) had worked for one month or less; two-fifths (40.0 per cent) from one month to six months; 28.2 per cent, from six months to one year; 9.1 per cent, between one year and two years; and 2.2 per cent, more than two years.

Kinds of Work in Relation to Time on Job

Of the full-time workers, those engaged in domestic service had the longest period of employment, the average being 10.0 months. Telephone operators and laundry workers averaged over 9 months. Office, hotel and restaurant, and farm and dairy workers averaged

between 7 and 8 months; factory, skilled and unskilled workers, between 6 and 7 months; paper boys, and those selling goods, between 5 and 6 months. Delivery boys averaged 4.6 months; hospital workers and porters and janitors, each, 4.1 months; automobile workers, 3.4 months; and collectors and solicitors, .8 months.

For the part-time workers the longest average period of employment was 19.2 months for skilled workers, and 18.8 months for farm and dairy workers. Office workers average 15.4 months and caddies, 14.5 months. Domestic service, porters and janitors, and automobile workers averaged between 13 and 14 months; hotel and restaurant, and unskilled workers between 12 and 13 months; those selling goods and telephone operators between 11 and 12 months; newsboys, 10.0 months; and delivery boys, 9.3 months. Yard and garden workers, ushers, and collectors and solicitors averaged between 5 and 6 months.

Age in Relation to Time on Job

The 14 year old full-time workers had averaged 5.7 months at their jobs, compared to 5.2 months for the 15 year old children, 6.8 months for the 16 year, and 7.0 months for the 17 year old children. For the part-time children, those 13 years and under averaged 9.5 months at their jobs; those 14 to 17 years, 12.2 months; and those 18 years and over, 17.8 months.

WAGES[1]

The average weekly wage for the full-time children was $11.62; in Enid, $12.97; in Oklahoma City, $11.86; and in Lawton, $8.47. For 5.2 per cent of the full-time workers, the average weekly wage was less than $5.00 per week; for 26.9 per cent, from $5.00 to $9.00; for 39.2 per cent, from $10 to $14; for 20.7 per cent, from $15 to $19; for 5.9 per cent, from $20 to $24; and for 2.2 per cent, $25 or more. Slightly more than one-fifth (21.1 per cent) of the children in Enid, nearly one-third (30.5 per cent) in Oklahoma City, and over half (56.5 per cent) in Lawton were making less than $10 per week. In Lawton no children were making as much as $20 a week, while in Oklahoma City 8.2 per cent, and in Enid, 12.7 per cent, were making $20 or more per week.

The average hourly wage for the full-time children was 23.1 cents; it was 24.1 cents in Oklahoma City, 24.2 cents in Enid, and 16.7 cents in Lawton.

For the part-time children, the average weekly wage was $4.45. It was highest in Oklahoma City ($4.64), and lowest in Enid

[1] For 31 full-time working children, answers as to wages were not received; all averages and percentages are based upon information secured.

($3.80). The average in Lawton was $4.35. Nearly one-eighth (12.1 per cent) of all the part-time children were making less than $1.00 a week; 31.0 per cent, from $1.00 to $2.50; 29.4 per cent, from $2.51 to $5.00; 20.2 per cent, from $5.01 to $10; 5.4 per cent, from $10.01 to $15; and 2.8 per cent, over $15 per week. In Oklahoma City 69.6 per cent, as compared to 79.4 per cent in Enid, and 79.2 per cent in Lawton were making $5.00 or less per week. In Oklahoma City 7.7 per cent, compared to 6.5 per cent in Enid, and 6.3 per cent in Lawton, were making more than $10 a week.

The average hourly wage for part-time children was 24.1 cents. There was very little difference in the hourly wage in the three places, being 23.7 cents in Oklahoma City, 25.1 cents in Enid, and 26.0 cents in Lawton.

Kinds of Work in Relation to Wages

For the full-time workers, the jobs with an average weekly income of less than $10 were: domestic service, farm and dairy, hotel and restaurant, newspaper selling and distributing, and porter and janitor work. In each of these jobs the average hourly wage was less than 15 cents except in newspaper selling and distributing where it was 26.5 cents per hour. Hospital, laundry, factory, selling goods, and delivery service averaged between $10 and $12 a week. The hourly wage for the first three of these jobs was less than 20 cents, while for selling goods it was 21.1 cents, and for delivery service, 22.0 cents. Unskilled, automobile, telephone operator, and office work averaged between $13 and $14 per week, with an average hourly wage of between 25 and 30 cents for each, except automobile work which was 20.5 cents per hour. The highest average weekly wage was $15.68 for skilled work, which also had the highest hourly wage of 32.3 cents.

More than one-sixth (17.6 per cent) of the full-time children were working in lines of work for which the average hourly wage was less than 15 cents an hour, and the average weekly wage was $9 or less; 15.6 per cent were in work for which the average hourly wage was between 15 and 19 cents, and the weekly wage between $10 and $11; nearly one-third (32.9 per cent) were in work for which the hourly wage was between 20 and 24 cents, and the average weekly wage varied from $10.74 to $13.33; nearly one-fourth, where the hourly wage was between 25 and 29 cents, and the weekly wage varied from $8.63 to $13.62; about one in ten (9.6 per cent) were making more than 30 cents an hour.

For the part-time workers the children who did yard and garden work were averaging less than $3.00 per week, with an

hourly wage of 21.4 cents. Those who did domestic service, farm and dairy work, selling or distributing newspapers and magazines, porter and janitor work, and caddying, were averaging between $3.00 and $4.00 per week with the hourly wage running from 18.0 cents for domestic service to 28.8 cents for porters and janitors. Children engaged in delivery service, unskilled work, and selling goods averaged between $4.00 and $5.00 per week, with the hourly wage being, respectively, 18.0 cents, 21.1 cents, and 20.7 cents. Hotel and restaurant workers, collectors and solicitors, and ushers averaged between $5.00 and $6.00, with the hourly wage being 19.7 cents, 32.1 cents, and 20.9 cents, respectively. Office and automobile workers were averaging between $7.00 and $8.00, the hourly wage being 31.5 cents and 26.4 cents, respectively. The best paid jobs for part-time children were telephone operator work with an average weekly wage of $13.96 and an hourly wage of 33.3 cents, and skilled work, with an average weekly wage of $9.28, and an hourly wage of 41.5 cents.

The lowest hourly wage for the part-time workers was 18.0 cents per hour, found in delivery and domestic service. About one-sixth (17.5 per cent) of the part-time workers were in jobs averaging less than 20 cents an hour; nearly one-third (31.7 per cent) from 20 to 24 cents; two-fifths (40.6 per cent) from 25 to 29 cents; and 10.2 per cent, 30 cents or more.

Age in Relation to Wages

The part-time workers 13 years of age and under averaged $2.32 per week. On the basis of weekly time worked this figures an average of 17.1 cents an hour. For the 14 to 17 year group the average weekly earnings was $5.87 or 26.8 cents per hour. For those 18 years and over it was $7.55, or 29.8 cents per hour. Of the part-time group 13 years or less, 25.4 per cent were earning less than $1.00 per week; 40.7 per cent from $1.00 to $2.50; 27.1 per cent from $2.51 to $5.00; and 6.8 per cent over $5.00 per week. Of the 14 to 17 year group, 1.9 per cent were earning less than $1.00 per week; 24.9 per cent, from $1.00 to $2.50; 33.4 per cent, from $2.51 to $5.00; and 39.8 per cent, over $5.00 per week. Of the group 18 years and over, none were earning less than $1.00 per week; 17.5 per cent, from $1.00 to $2.50; 23.0 per cent, from $2.51 to $5.00; and 59.5 per cent, more than $5.00 per week.

Of the full-time children, those 14 years old averaged 16.0 cents an hour, or $8.35 per week; those 15 years old, 21.1 cents, or $10.43 per week; those 16 years, 21.5 cents per hour, or $11 per week; and those 17 years, 25.5 cents per hour, or $12.74 per week. About one-sixth (15.4 per cent) of the 14 year, 7.4 per

cent of the 15 year, 4.8 per cent of the 16 year, and 3.9 per cent of the 17 year old children were earning less than $5.00 per week.

GRADE STANDING

A little over one-fifth (22.4 per cent) of the part-time children were in or below the 5th grade; about one-third (34.1 per cent) in the 6th, 7th, or 8th grades; and more than two-fifths (43.4 per cent) in high school. Of the full-time workers 8.9 per cent had completed not more than the 5th grade; 53.0 per cent the 6th, 7th or 8th grades; and 38.3 per cent had had one or more years in high school.

Kinds of Work in Relation to Grade Standing

Among the part-time workers all telephone operators and ushers were high-school students. More than nine-tenths of the office workers and nearly as high a percentage of skilled trades workers were in high school. The jobs having from three-fifths to two-thirds of the workers in high school were: collectors and solicitors, hotel and restaurant, automobile, and selling goods. Those having from two-fifths to one-half were: delivery service, domestic sevice, porters and janitors, farm and dairy, and unskilled workers. Newspaper selling or delivering for part-time workers had the highest percentage (42.2) in the fifth grade or less, followed by yard and garden work (35.8), and caddies (29.2). About one-sixth each of the delivery boys, farm and dairy and unskilled workers, were in the 5th grade or less.

A little over three-fourths (77.0 per cent) of the full-time office workers had completed one or more grades in high school. About three-fifths of the porters and janitors, telephone operators and those selling goods had a similar grade standing. About two-fifths of the delivery service, automobile, hotel and restaurant, laundry and skilled workers, had had high-school training. More than one-fourth (28.6 per cent) of the farm and dairy workers, nearly one-fifth of the domestic service, and unskilled workers, had completed not more than the 5th grade.

CHILD LABOR LAW OF OKLAHOMA

The child labor law of Oklahoma provides that no child under the age of 14 years shall be employed or permitted to work in any factory, factory-workshop, theatre, bowling alley, pool hall, or steam laundry. The Constitution of Oklahoma provides that the employment of children under the age of fifteen years, in any occupation injurious to health or morals, or especially hazardous to

life or limb, is prohibited. Under this grant of power, the Commissioner of Labor has been authorized to determine what occupations are injurious to health or morals, or especially hazardous to life or limb. In the exercise of this power, the Commissioner of Labor has forbidden the employment of children under 15 years of age in the following kinds of work: messenger service, both telephone and telegraph; all kinds of delivery service; in shoe-shine parlors, barber-shops, hotels; repairing and demolishing buildings; selling or offering for sale any article of merchandise on the street or any out-of-door place (this is not held to include the sale and distribution of newspapers and magazines); and dancing or otherwise performing in hotels, cafés, restaurants, or other places where cold drinks or refreshments are sold.

The law further provides that children under 16 years of age may not work at a rather long list of employments generally considered to be dangerous or injurious to the health of children of such ages. Girls under 16 years are forbidden to sell newspapers or magazines on the street.

The law specifies an 8 hour day and a 48 hour week for children under 16 years working at any gainful occupation except in agriculture and domestic service. Night work between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. in any factory, factory-workshop, theatre, bowling alley, pool hall, or steam laundry, is prohibited to boys under 16 years and girls under 18 years of age.

An age and schooling certificate is required for children under 16 years to work in any factory, factory-workshop, theatre, bowling alley, pool hall or steam laundry. The law provides the usual means of establishing the age of the child, but the only educational requirement is that the child shall have attended some school during the preceding year for the time that attendance is compulsory under the law. No provision is made for a signed statement from the employer stating the nature of the work at which the child is to be employed, nor is there any provision for a physical examination except that, if the issuing officer is not satisfied that the child is physically able to do the job, he must have the physical fitness of the child determined by a medical officer of the board or department of health.

The Commissioner of Labor holds that children between 15 and 16 years working at jobs considered by him to be injurious to health or morals, or especially hazardous to life or limb for children under 15 years of age, are subject to the same limitations as to hours, night work, and the requirements for age and schooling certificates, as are those who work in a factory, factory-workshop, theatre, bowling alley, pool hall, or steam laundry.

Having made this brief statement of the law let us see how it applies or fails to apply to the work which the children in the three places studied were doing.

There are no provisions or regulations of any kind governing the work of children in domestic service or in agriculture. There were 112 part-time and 24 full-time children engaged in domestic service, and 24 part-time and 22 full-time, in farm and dairy work. These were 5.9 per cent of all the part-time workers and 13.0 per cent of all the full-time workers. Almost one-fifth (19.8 per cent) of these children were 13 years of age or less, slightly more than one-fourth (27.5 per cent) were 14 and 15 years, and more than half (52.5 per cent) were 16 years or older.

There are other types of work for which the law provides no regulation except that the children may not work more than 8 hours a day, or 48 hours a week. There were 812 part-time and 4 full-time children engaged in selling or distributing newspapers and magazines; 409 part-time and 46 full-time, selling goods in stores; 130 part-time, caddying; 67 part-time, doing yard and garden work; 108 part-time and 28 full-time, working as office boys, office clerks, stenographers, bookkeepers, etc.; 13 part-time and 2 full-time, collecting and soliciting; and 7 part-time and 13 full-time, acting as telephone operators. These were two-thirds (66.8 per cent) of all the part-time and more than one-fourth (26.2 per cent) of all the full-time workers.

Apparently none of these jobs are regulated except with respect to the daily and weekly hours. There is no age limit; the children may work at night; and no age and schooling certificate is required. However, it should be stated that the Commissioner of Labor, desirous of protecting every child in so far as possible, has encouraged the issuing officers to require permits for children working in the above-mentioned jobs, as well as in the occupations for which the law clearly specifies they must be issued. On the ground of expediency there is justification for this position, for it is practically impossible to enforce the 8 hour day, 48 hour week provision without some centralized record from which a check can be made.

A further analysis of the facts shows that of the 1,546 part-time and 93 full-time children engaged in newspaper work, selling goods, caddying, yard and garden work, office work, collecting and soliciting, and as telephone operators—all unregulated by law except as to daily and weekly hours—52.0 per cent of the part-time children were 13 years or less; 22.3 per cent of the part-time and 11.8 per cent of the full-time, were 14 and 15 years; and 25.7 per cent of the part-time and 88.2 per cent of the full-time were 16

years or older. Furthermore, the part-time children working in these unregulated jobs (to the extent aforementioned) worked practically two-thirds (65.6 per cent) of all the weekly hours worked by part-time children, excluding domestic service and farm and dairy work. The percentage for the full-time workers was 29.1. Nearly half (45.8 per cent) of the part-time and 26.9 per cent of the full-time children employed at these jobs worked at night; 28.8 per cent of the part-time and 9.0 per cent of the full-time weekly hours worked in these unregulated jobs being night hours.

This leaves, then, 27.3 per cent of the part-time and 60.8 per cent of the full-time children working at jobs that are subject to other legal restrictions besides the 8 hour day and 48 hour week regulation. But not all of these children were working legally. More than one-third (34.7 per cent) of these part-time children and one of the full-time children were younger than the law allows. Of the 119 part-time and 47 full-time children 14 and 15 years of age working at regulated jobs, there were 9 part-time who did not work on Saturday and 8 full-time children for whom the length of the day was not secured. Of the remainder, 47 part-time children worked more than 8 hours on Saturday, and 21 full-time children had a day longer than 8 hours; 25 of the full-time children worked more than 48 hours a week; and, in addition to attending school, 41 of the part-time children worked 30 or more hours a week, the average for all of this part-time group being 22.6 hours; 68 of the part-time workers were employed for at least a part of their work time at night, and 5 of the full-time workers had their day lap over into the night hours and one worked entirely at night; only 21 part-time and 5 full-time workers had employment certificates.

In so far as full-time work is concerned the child labor situation in Oklahoma City, Enid, and Lawton, cannot be said to be bad. There were only 15 fourteen year, and 56 fifteen year old children working. This number is quite small compared to the total number of children of such ages in the three places. Even the number of 16 and 17 year old children employed is not large. The school authorities in the three places are doing a remarkably good job keeping the children in school. Furthermore, the effective work of the State Department of Labor has done much to cut down the number of children working. True there were some violations of the law, but for the most part these children were working in the small types of business where there is the greatest difficulty in locating illegal employment. The limited number of inspectors in the department makes it all but impossible to check

every place of employment. In the larger and more important places of employment there were practically no violations.

It is in part-time work that the real child labor problem is to be found. There has not, as yet, been developed an understanding of the difference between child labor and children's work. Most of the work which children are doing before and after school is considered children's work. This position is not the result of careful reasoning, but is an assumption made to fit the facts. There have always been children who worked before and after school; some have to work if they are to get through school. So it is said, why shouldn't any child, yes, every child if he desires, work—provided he is also attending school. The possible effects of such work on the child have been given but little attention.

Work can be and should be of value in the training of children. Its disciplinary value should not be lost; and the lessons it can teach in the matter of thrift and savings are important. But it is not enough to look at constructive values, only. These may be negligible, or they may be more than offset by destructive elements. Some children are taught to work and save, thereby learning to appreciate the value of money; but for many their only reason for working seems to be to earn money which they may spend as their own unguided desires dictate. Instead of learning to save they become spendthrifts. Furthermore, much part-time work involves detrimental labor. For some there is interference with school, not, perhaps, so much in keeping children out of school during the time when the classes are actually in session, but rather in using up and dissipating their energy which ought to be saved for work in school; for others there is a serious question of the influence of work on health and morals; and for still others there is a denial of the right to play and have a happy wholesome childhood.

More than two-fifths of the part-time children were 13 years of age or less, and this figure represents over one thousand children in the three places. These children average 13.5 hours a week, with one-fourth of them working more than 18 hours a week, in addition to their attendance at school. More than one-fourth of their work measured in time was done at night. These facts cannot be passed over lightly; their import is too great. These children are young and many of them are putting more time at work and school combined than is expected of an adult; much of their work is at a time when it could hardly be said to be conducive to their best interests from the viewpoint of health and morals.

Newspaper and magazine selling or distributing, in many respects, is the outstanding work in which children are employed before and after school. More than one-third of all the part-time children were thus employed. Over half of the group, 13 years and under, followed this line of work. There were 237 children of this age selling newspapers on the street. The places where these children work are in the congested districts where the problems of traffic are greatest, involving risk to life and limb of children working there. Some of these children are employed in sections of the city where the moral atmosphere is not of the best. There were 190 children 13 years and under delivering newspapers. The majority of these had an evening route in which the work started soon after the close of school and was finished by 5 or 6 o'clock. But there was a goodly number who had morning routes involving the necessity of getting out early.

As already noted 12 years was the age of the largest number of children engaged in newspaper work. The number of both 13 and 14 year olds was less than the number of 11 year olds. From 14 years on the number declines rapidly until at 17 years there were fewer so employed than at 7 years of age. There were only four children who had quit school permanently and were following this line of work. Newspaper selling and distributing is a school child's job, and, it would appear, has little or no vocational value for later work—at least very few follow it upon leaving school.

Another important kind of part-time work is that of selling goods in stores. In some respects selling goods is a more serious child labor problem than that of newspaper work, although it affects approximately only half as many children. The worst features are the long hours and night work. One-fifth of the children selling goods were 13 years or under. Nearly three-fourths of these worked at night and over half of their time was put in at night. The average for all the part-time children selling goods was 23 hours per week, with nearly two-fifths of the total work time being at night.

Approximately one-fourth of the children selling goods worked in drug stores, and one-third of these were under 14 years. The average weekly time was 36.1 hours for all drug store children, with nearly two-thirds of the total weekly hours being worked at night. The 35 children under 14 employed in drug stores averaged 33.3 hours per week, with 71.1 per cent of the hours at night.

There has developed, particularly in Oklahoma City, what is known as curb service. Persons desiring refreshments of one character or another will drive up to the curb in front of a drug

store or other type of refreshment place, and at the sound of the honking automobile horn, a boy comes out to ascertain the wants. These boys are known as curb hops, or car hops. This service is intended to supply the ordinary refreshments, such as ice-cream, sodas, coca cola, etc. It is claimed that people carry liquor with them and ask the car hops to bring out soft drinks for mixing.

Other types of part-time work, such as delivery service, work as filling station attendants, in garages, as waiters and dishwashers in hotels and restaurants, also had objectionable features. In fact there was no classification of part-time work that did not have some elements of questionable value for the children working therein.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. It should be made unlawful to employ any child under 14 years of age at any gainful occupation. An exception might be made allowing children over 12 years of age to deliver newspapers on regular routes after school, the work not to exceed two hours.

II. All children who are 14 years of age or over, and who are gainfully employed, should be required to have a work permit issued by the superintendent of schools. This should be required of children who work part time as well as of those who work full time. Children who deliver newspapers should also have a permit. The work permit should be based upon:

a. A statement signed by the prospective employer showing the nature of the work.

b. A statement from the school showing that the child has completed the eighth grade, this being waived for employment when the school is not in session.

c. A certificate of physical fitness.

d. Proof of age.

III. Night work should be prohibited for all children under 16 years of age.

IV. Where children go to school and work the total time of work and school in any one day should not exceed 8 hours.

V. The period of compulsory school attendance should be extended to include the entire school year.

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